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THE ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN RESEARCH MATERIAL

An address delivered before a meeting of the southern section of the Western Theological Library Association, held at the Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles, California, December 4, 1958

by

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The nation-wide movement to inaugurate doctoral programs in schools which have traditionally given only the B. D. degree has drawn attention to a major gap in the typical seminary library: the absence of foreign research material. Perhaps the basic reason for this omission has been the apathy of the faculty. Hence any realistic concern on the part of the library staff for building such a collection must begin by making the point with the faculty. However, a gradual shift in faculty attitude can be expected from the increasing number of faculty persons who have studied in Europe. For example, of the 35 fellowships offered to faculty persons for sabbatic leaves by the American Association of Theological Schools this year, 28 have chosen to spend their time in Europe. Furthermore, the tendency to add to the faculty young men trained in Europe and European theologians has become apparent even in smaller institutions across the nation.

Among even those professors who have not had such opportunities of European study and hence do not have access to foreign languages, some interest in foreign research materials can be aroused by drawing attention to the increasing amount of this material which is being written in English. Whereas prior to World War II the smaller Protestant nations in the Benelux countries and Scandinavia used German as their scholarly language, the tendency over the last decade has been for English to assume the role of the international language for those whose mother tongue is not known outside the nation. Often a Latin title of a work suggests that it is not written in the native tongue, but in English, French, or German. For example, a professor confined to English will find much that is available to him in the publications of Brill in Leiden, such as the

journals Vetus Testamentum and Novum Testamentum, or in the Scandinavian periodical Studia Theologica or the series of Acta Seminarii Neotestamentici Upsaliensis. Koehler-Baumgartner's recent Lexicon in Veteris Testamenti Libros presents not only the German translation of each Hebrew term, but also the English translation, so as to be a Hebrew-German and Hebrew-English lexicon in one. Perhaps the average professor needs to be made more aware of the aid provided by foreign reference works for building an English-language bibliography. For example, Peter Nober's Elenchus Bibliographicus published annually in Biblica is invaluable for works in all languages, just as is the Internationale Zeitschriftenschau für Bibel und Grenzgebiete for periodical literature in all languages. The Internationale Bibliographie der Zeitschriftenliteratur, Abteilung B: Bibliographie der fremdsprachigen Zeitschriftenliteratur, is confined to non-German literature, i.e. largely English language periodical literature. (Abteilung A covers the German-language periodicals; Abteilung C handles book reviews.) Something like 40,000 periodicals are covered, so as to provide an invluable source for non-theological as well as theological periodicals. To build a bibliography on any given topic from this source one need only identify the German word for the subject of one's interest, and then look up under this word the articles of any given year. Hence there is much to be gained from some foreign research material even by the faculty members not specializing in foreign theology or conversant with foreign languages.

There are various bibliographical sources of foreign material, which could be sifted by faculty or library staff to prepare a master list of desiderata. The lists of abbreviations in various basic works often include most important periodicals and serials, e.g. the lists of abbreviations in Kittel-Friedrich's Theologisches Wörterbuch zum Neuen Testament, Arndt-Gingrich's A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, Biblica, the Internationale Zeitschriftenschau für Bibel und Grenzgebiete, Moulton and Milligan's The Vocabulary of the Greek Testament. Major works of German theologians of the past or present are found in the bibliographical footnotes to Horst Stephan's Geschichte der evangelischen Theologie (1938). The major works of any given theologian are listed at the end of his biography in Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart; the second edition is complete, but for bibliography of the last two decades one should refer to the third edition, which is about half finished. Rather complete lists of Biblical commentaries are given for each book in the two leading German series, the Meyer Kritisch-exegetisches Kommentar and the Handbuch zum Neuen (or Alten) Testament; each series is appearing gradually in post-war editions, so that a combination of the post-war volumes of the two series would provide both the most up-to-date German exegesis and full bibliographical information. Often the most difficult aspect of German theology to become aware of is the most recent work by the men still in the prime of life. One way to become aware of them is to acquire a recent volume in the series of ecclesiastical annuals called the Kirchliches Jahrbuch, where among other things one can find a list of the faculty of each German school of theology, from which a list of all German professors in any given field could be readily obtained. If this were done, many a library which assumes it "keeps up" fairly well on Continental literature would find that it is deficient in the works of the middle-aged men, and "up" only with regard

to the deceased and retired. Often a complete bibliography of the older scholars is printed in the Theologische Literaturzeitung at their death, or in the Festschrift (commemorative volume) in honor of their 70th birthday.

When one turns to the problem of finding which works are available on the market, one should first become aware of the fact that there are systematic lists of all post-war German publications. Das evangelische Schrifttum is a little booklet containing such a list, which is brought up to date from time to time with a supplement (Nachtrag), so that the combination of the three or four booklets which have appeared under this title provides a complete list of German-language post-war Protestant publications. The equivalent in loose-leaf form, with regular supplements which can be inserted at the proper place in the alphabet, is the Lagerkatalog of the Verbandssortiment evangelischer Buchhandler. A card service of current publications by subject areas, including philosophy and religion, is available from Buchhandler-Vereinigung GMBH, Grosser Hirschgraben 17/19, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Older theological bibliographies are found in the Theologische Literaturzeitung, the main German theological book-review periodical, published over the last 75 years; its Bibliographisches Beiblatt comprises in 22 volumes the bibliography systematically ordered for the years 1920-1942. A Bibliographie der theologischen Literatur began publication in Berlin in 1901 but has discontinued publication. A Systematisch geordnetes Repertorium der kathol.-theolog. Literatur ... seit 1760 bis zur Gegenwart was published in Paderborn 1895-1904. Rheinwald and Reuter's Allgemeines Repertorium für die theologische Literatur appeared in Berlin, 101 volumes, from 1833 to 1860. E. A. Zuchold's Bibliotheca Theologica 1830-1862 appeared in two volumes in Göttingen in 1864.

There are, of course, bibliographical tools not confined to theology, which have the advantage of more completeness, but the disadvantage that they cannot be worked through systematically as rapidly as can the lists confined to theology. Heinsius' allgemeines Bücherlexikon (exact title: Vollstandiges alphabetisches Verzeichnis der in Deutschland und den angrenzenden Landern gedruckten Bucher) was published 1793-1798; in 1812 a second edition began publication, continuing through volume 19 in 1894. This work then covers the period 1700-1892 and costs around $250 on the second-hand market. Kayser's vollstandiges Bücherlexikon, enthaltend alle seit 1750 in Deutschland und in den angrenzenden Landern gedruckten Bucher began to appear in 1834, publishing 36 volumes until discontinued in 1911, and covers the years 1750-1910. It costs about $950 on the second-hand market. Hinrich's deutsches Bucherverzeichnis covers the years 1851-1912, at a second-hand cost of about $240. Hinrich's was bought out by the German booksellers' organization and renamed Deutsches Bucherverzeichnis, which has a weekly edition, a half-year's edition (until 1944), and a five-years' cumulation. A set from 1911 to 1940 costs around $900. Since World War II the Deutsches Bucherverzeichnis, in the Russian zone, has appeared weekly as Deutsche Nationalbibliographie, with a one-year cumulation rather than the half-year edition. It costs $28.60 a year. There is a ten-years' cumulation for 1940-1950 which costs $259.30; from 1951 on there are to be five-years' cumulations. West Germany has its own Deutsche Bibliographie,

with a weekly edition costing $29.55 per year, a half-year's catalogue at $13.15, and a five-years' cumulation at $188.71 (1943-1950; 1951-1955 has not yet appeared).

In addition to such systematic lists, it would be worthwhile to receive regularly the blurbs issued from the main publishing houses, since they often contain a resume of the book, the table of contents, a sample page or two, and other information making an evaluation of the individual item more precise. The two leading houses are J. C. B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck) in Tübingen, and Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht in Göttingen. Mohr's Jubiläumskatalog 1801-1951 lists all the reserves they have for sale; there are more recent Auslieferungskatalogs, as well as smaller frequent blurbs (e.g. their Rundschrieben are very informative). Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht's in-print stock is listed in their Antiquariats-Katalog: Theologie. Another major source of older in-print material is Walter de Gruyter und Co. (i.e. now Verlag Töpelmann) Verlagskatalog 1950 of in-print material, Gruppe V: Theologie und Religionswissenschaft (including e.g. first editions of Schleiermacher published 150 years ago!). Another house, Christian Kaiser of Munich, contains much of the Barthian material. W. Kohlhammer Verlag of Stuttgart is also important. The Academie-Verlag, Berlin (Russian sector) has a catalog on Religionsgeschichte, which contains the much-diminished continuation of the major scholarly projects of the Berlin Academy of Sciences. The Verlag der Buchhandlung des Erziehungsvereins GMBH, Neukirchen-Moers, publishes among other things the new Biblischer Kommentar, Altes Testament. The Privilegierte Württembergische Bibelanstalt, Stuttgart, prints economically the major scholarly Bible editions such as Kittel's Hebrew Old Testament, Rahlf's Septuagint, Nestle's New Testament (see catalog entitled Stuttgarter wissenschaftliche Bibelausgaben). German language publishers in Switzerland are: Evangelischer Verlag, Zollikon-Zürich (publisher of Barth), and the Zwingli-Verlag, Zürich. The main German Roman Catholic publisher is Herder in Freiburg, whose catalog Theologie und Philosophie is of primary relevance.

The major French language Protestant publisher is Delachaux et Niestle of Neuchatel and Paris, whose Catalog Theologique is relevant. The most important French Roman Catholic publisher is J. Gabalda et Cie., editeurs, 90, rue Bonaparte, Paris 6e. They publish the Etudes Bibliques. However, attention should also be called to Editions Garnier Freres, 6 rue des Saints-Peres, Paris, who publish most of the oriental (e.g. Ras Shamra) material, as well as the Migne sets. The outstanding French publisher of academic materials in general is the Presses Universitaires de France, 108, boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris 6e. In Holland, Brill of Leiden (Brill's Weekly is in English) is well-known. Ejnar Munksgaard Ltd. of Copenhagen, Denmark, has a catalog Novi Libri published in English, as does G. W. K. Gleerup of Lund, Sweden (see Catalogue of Serial Publications). These are two major Scandinavian houses, from which much of the highly-worthwhile Scandinavian English-language research can be obtained. From Italy one should note primarily the Pontifical Biblical Institute's catalogs, Libri Pontificii Instituti Biblici, Amministrazione Pubblicazioni, Piazza Pilotta 35, Roma 204. The catalogs of the Societe des Bollandistes, 24 boulevard Saint-Michel, Bruxelles 4, are one of the major interests in Belgium; of equal importance is the new Corpus

Christianorum, published by Editions Brepols, Turnhout, Belgium, whose brochure is available.

One usually orders German material from a book dealer (Buchhandlung), rather than directly from a publisher. Two of the largest dealers, valuable especially for securing runs of periodicals, are Harrassowitz (Wiesbaden), and Zwets en Zeitlinger, Amsterdam. Representatives from these houses have visited many of our American theological librarians. I have also ordered from the Versand-Buchhandlung Helmut Geisler, Louisenstrasse 92, Bad Homburg, Germany; for Switzerland from the Missionsbuchhandlung, Missionsstrasse, Basel, Switzerland; for France from Gabalda (see above). There are innumerable Continental second-hand catalogs which are mailed regularly. T. Wever-Boekhandel, Franeker, Holland, specializes in religion and has frequent catalogs. Rolf Kerst, Lange Geismarstrasse 30, Göttingen; Müller und Gräff, Calwer Strasse 54, Stuttgart; Julius Weise's Hofbuchhandlung, Fürstenstrasse 1, Stuttgart; Orientbuchhandlung Heinz Lafaire, (21a) Bad Pyrmont; and Akademische Buchhandlung, Veterinärstrasse 1, Munich 22, are among the German second-hand dealers who publish catalogs in religion.

A few observations about the peculiarities of Continental theological works may be worthy of mention. Journals appearing regularly are typically designated Zeitschrift or Revue, whereas monograph series appearing periodically but not regularly are often entitled Untersuchungen, Beitrage, Abhandlungen, or Beiheft. N. F. means neue Folge, new series, i.e. when a periodical begins numbering again from one. It is more the rule than the exception that German scholarly works are revised rather thoroughly with each succeeding edition, so that it is usually not sufficient merely to have one earlier edition, or to have the English translation of an early edition, if a later edition is available. Usually the title page gives, under the title, some indication of the extent of the revision (often abbreviated) such as:

2., völlig neu bearbeitete Auflage (fully reworked)

2. durchgesehene Auflage (typographical and other minor details corrected)

photomechanischer Neudruck (no alteration)

2. erweiterte Auflage (enlarged edition)

2. vermehrte Auflage (enlarged edition)

Hence one must note that there is no such thing as "having" a German commentary as one might "have" the International Critical Commentary; for the equivalent Handbuch (Meyer) has been changing with each edition over the last 50 years, and one must keep getting the most recent reworking. A peculiarity of works appearing just after the war is that they did not reset the plates, but simply added an appendix (Anhang) with improvements; when it was published under separate cover, one spoke of the supplement as an Ergänzungsheft (e.g. to Bultmann's commentary on John). It should be noted that larger German works such as encyclopaedia are sold on

subscription, and are mailed out fascicle by fascicle (or one can request that they be sent bound volume by volume). Sometimes a volume may take four or five years to appear, so that subscription by fascicle may be needed if the faculty wishes to keep up to date; in that case, the cover can be ordered from the publisher. It is this procedure of publication of books by fascicles which explains the habit of putting tables of contents at the end of the book. Continental books are often published either in temporary paper binding, or in hard backs. The former is referred to in German as broschiert (abbreviated Brosch. or Br.), kartoniert (Kart.), or geheftet (geh.), the latter as gebunden (Geb.) or Leinwand (Lw.), or Leinen (Ln.). The latter means cloth binding; sometimes leather binding (Leder) is still used; for both, a prefixed H means Halb-, i.e. Hlw. half-cloth, or Hld. half-leather. A Sonderdruck (Sd.) means a reprint, where one must ask whether one does not already possess the item in question within the periodical or Festschrift in which it originally occurred. Diss. means a published dissertation (publication is still required in Switzerland, and was, until the war, in Germany).

Perhaps one may in conclusion be permitted to call attention to two matters sometimes causing confusion in the cataloging process. The one is the problem of the umlaut, i.e. the two dots over vowels. These two dots are a degeneration of the letter e, which one still occasionally sees in elegant editions printed above another vowel instead of the two dots. Hence ä is really ae; ö is oe; ü is ue. It used to be the case that the e was even written on the line, and this habit is preserved especially in family names which thereby display their antiquity, i.e. Goethe (rather than Göthe); Troeltsch (rather than Tröltsch). Sometimes both forms occur for the same individual, or sometimes different persons choose one or the other. Hence German reference works tend to alphabetize ä as ae, etc. The other item of confusion encountered occasionally in cataloging is the habit, especially prevalent around the turn of the century, of writing the author's name on the title page as e.g. D. B. Weiss, meaning Doktor Bernhard Weiss (D., not Dr., is the German abbreviation for Doctor; in Switzerland, Dr. is used). Hence one should avoid the frequent error of cataloging under Weiss, D. B. If one looks closely, one can usually detect, if the book is written in German (Gothic) letters, that the D. is in Latin (i.e. English) type (since Doctor is still sensed to be a Latin word), while the initial of the Christian name is in the Gothic type.

As I write, Oscar Cullman (Basel and Paris), Rudolf Bultmann (Marburg), Bo Reicke (Basel), and Werner Georg Kümmel (Marburg), to mention only New Testament scholars, are on lecture tours throughout the United States. It seems to have become part of the successful German academic career that one makes periodic lecture tours of the United States. I trust that when such a visiting lecturer is on your campus in the next few years and scans your reading room and card catalog, he will find not only some of his own works, but various foreign works that he considers in addition to his own to be great.

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